### **Farm Contact Information:**

Ethereal Gardens 180066 County Rd G Antigo, WI 54409 (715) 574-5547 etherialgardens@gmail.com

Member Contact Information
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Name:	
Address:	
ZIP:	
Phone Number: _	
Email:	

# Section 1. Introducing Our CSA Farm Becoming a Part of Our Farm:

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a relationship between our farm and you as our customer. Rather than simply purchasing food, our customers become "members" of this CSA farm who receive a portion of the farm's harvest. Our CSA runs for 26 weeks, from June 1 to Dec 1. You will generally receive ½ to 1 bushel of vegetables & herbs a week depending on share size, equivalent to one to two grocery bags of produce, with 1 to 2 bushels during peak season. Variety and quantity may vary as described below in Section 2.

## **Our Growing Practices:**

The farm is USDA Certified Organic. Certified organic meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy products come from animals that are not given antibiotics or growth hormones. Organic produce is grown without using specific conventional pesticides, fertilizers made with synthetic ingredients or sewage sludge, bioengineering, or ionizing radiation. We are actually beyond organic, in that our practices exceed organic standards, by our use of no-till and both soil and forest conservation practices. For more information about organic production please ask. We'd be happy to tell you more.

## The Products We Expect for 2023:

The chart below outlines some of the vegetables we hope to deliver and when you may see them in your share. This chart is based on our best estimate, but of course weather, pests, and other events will affect actual production.

<u>Season</u>	What to Expect
Early Summer (June)	Lots of Greens and Herbs, Scallions/Green Onions, rhubarb, asparagus, berries, peas, bok choy
Summer (July & August)	Greens, herbs, garlic, late berries, green onions, cucumbers and summer squash, early tomatoes & peppers, green beans, early broccoli?
Fall (Sept, Oct)	Tomatoes, Tomatillos, Eggplant, Peppers, Corn, Beans, Squash, Greens, Herbs, Broccoli, Early Cabbage, beginning of Winter Storage Roots
Early Winter (Nov)	Potatoes, Onions, Shallots, Carrots, Leeks, Beets, Squash, flour corn, dry beans, Cabbage, late or dried tomatoes and peppers. Dried Herbs.

# Section 2. Our Shared Commitments Sharing in the Risk of Crop Failure:

We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. The quantity of produce, however, may vary from week-to-week, month-to-month and season-to-season due to extreme weather, insects, or other production factors despite our best efforts. By joining our CSA, you are agreeing to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members. In the unlikely event of a crop failure, our procedure is as follows: If only a small portion of crops fail, we compensate for the failed crops by filling your share with other crops grown on the farm that are ready for harvest at that time. We may cover for a crop loss by buying in from other local farmers who are either certified organic or organic without certification.. This may not be a feasible option for all crops because of cost or widespread failure. For example, in 2016 my foot was broken right at the beginning of season, making planting impossible with the canary grass I have that at the time I had not yet 100% figured out how to manage. I compensated by filling the shares with whatever produce my organic farmers friends could muster, and with produce from a local group of gardeners and growers in Antigo who use 100% green growing techniques. In the end I did offer refunds to those who were unhappy, but most understood the situation and stuck it out with me, and for that understanding I am very grateful

# Sharing in the Reward of Crop Surplus:

: In addition to our CSA, our farm sells at the Wausau Alternative Farmers Market, some local restaurants, and in our online grocery store.. We segregate our production for the CSA by

average annual consumption rates per person, so a half share is 2 people, we designate 100lbs worth of potatoes in a season, 100 lbs of tomatoes in a season, etc per person. I literally mark off what area of plants are yours. When production of our CSA segregated crops are especially abundant, we pack as much as possible into your share. However, we don't want to overwhelm our members or deliver so much produce that it goes to waste. When we feel that members have received enough of certain crops, we handle the surplus by selling it at the farmers market & to our restaurant and online buyers.

# Section 3. Delivery of Shares

CSA delivery occurs every Friday afternoon from 1-5pm. We deliver directly to your door with our little e-85 delivery car. You will be given a reusable crate the size of your share every week. Please have the previous weeks crate out on the porch (or where you would like it dropped, please specify if not the porch), by friday at 1pm so we may switch them out.

We take the safety of your food seriously. All produce is washed as it is packed in the field with the only exceptions being potatoes and onions/garlic due to the way they cure. Any fresh greens and herbs are given the additional step of being fast chilled and washed a second time before packaging. For your added protection, wash all produce before eating. In addition please have plans in place so your share is not sitting in the sun for hours waiting for you to come home. Some products such as the fresh greens and herbs are very susceptible to wilting in the hot summer sun, please take your share inside and put away appropriately ASAP to maintain the quality and safety of your produce.

## **Section 4. Communicating with Us:**

The best way to communicate with us is via email. Our email is etherialgardens@gmail.com. We will do our best to respond as soon as possible, but please understand that we spend most of our time in the field growing your food and not at our desk. Please contact us with any news of the following: changes to your postal or email address, changes to your drop-site location, problems with your drop-site, or dissatisfaction with your share. We will communicate with you by email. When you sign up, you will be added to our distribution list. Please read your email from us. We depend on being able to communicate important information such as necessary changes to your distribution schedule or to our farm events.

Every week, we will email a newsletter giving you information about the crops available that week, recipe ideas, or other farm related news. By signing below, I agree to this CSA agreement. I understand that, although unlikely, the farm may change parts of this agreement related to production and distribution from time to time. I understand that they will contact me via email in advance of any changes to this agreement.

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